UNITED NATIONS **S**

Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/1998/458
3 June 1998
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: FRENCH

LETTER DATED 2 JUNE 1998 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

I have the honour to draw your attention to the statement issued by the Presidency of the European Union regarding the nuclear tests conducted by Pakistan.

I should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) John WESTON
Permanent Representative of the
United Kingdom of Great Britain and
Northern Ireland to the United Nations

Annex

[Original: English and French]

Statement on Pakistan nuclear tests issued by the Presidency of the European Union

The European Union is dismayed and disappointed at the news of a nuclear test by Pakistan. As with India's nuclear tests, the European Union condemns this action, which runs counter to the will expressed by 149 signatories to the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty to cease nuclear testing, and to efforts to strengthen the global non-proliferation regime. India's nuclear tests have undermined the stability of the region. Pakistan's nuclear test has made the situation worse.

Following the nuclear tests by India, the European Union made clear to Pakistan that a nuclear test by Pakistan would damage Pakistan's security environment. The European Union had therefore strongly urged the Government of Pakistan to exercise the maximum restraint and very much regrets that it has not done so.

The European Union remains fully committed to the implementation of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty and the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, which is the cornerstone of the global nuclear non-proliferation regime and the essential foundation for the pursuit of nuclear disarmament. It has a strong interest in the peace and stability of South Asia, and is deeply concerned about the threat posed to this by nuclear and missile proliferation. We urge Pakistan, along with other States in the region, to refrain from further tests and the deployment of nuclear weapons or ballistic missiles. In particular we urge Pakistan and India:

- To sign the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty and move to ratify it;

- To contribute actively from now on towards opening negotiations in the Conference on Disarmament at Geneva for a treaty banning the production of fissile materials for nuclear weapons;

- To exert stringent controls over the export of material, equipment and technology controlled under the Nuclear Suppliers Group Trigger and Dual Use Lists and the Missile Technology Control Regime Annex;

- To make a commitment neither to assemble nuclear devices nor to deploy them on delivery vehicles and cease development and deployment of ballistic missiles capable of delivering nuclear warheads.

The European Union will follow closely the evolution of the situation and will take all necessary measures should Pakistan and India not accede to and move to ratify the relevant international non-proliferation agreements, in particular the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty, without conditions. We also urge Pakistan and India to engage in a dialogue which addresses the root

causes of the tension between them, and try to build confidence, rather than seek confrontation.